## Carroll, Rhonda

From:

Lisa Martin < llinney1975@sbcglobal.net>

Sent:

Tuesday, February 23, 2016 3:32 PM

To:

JudTestimony

Subject:

H.B. No. 5344

Testimony Concerning H.B. No. 5344 Judiciary Committee, February 24, 2016 Lisa L. Martin

I would like to express my thanks to the Judiciary Committee for the opportunity to assert my support of H.B. No. 5344: An Act Concerning Support For Animals That Are Neglected or Treated Cruelly.

With the FBI now collecting data on animal abuse cases, the correlation between crimes committed against humans and those committed against animals is irrefutable. But with roughly 80% of animal abuse cases in Connecticut never making it to court, criminals are all too easily slipping through the net. Our courts, as things stand now, are failing humans and animals alike.

We should follow the FBI's example of taking animal abuse cases seriously. H.B. No. 5344 would provide a voice to victims of animal abuse, and thus provide animal abuse cases with the significance they deserve. In doing so, we would increase prosecutions of such cases, making all of Connecticut, humans and animals, safer.

Please support H.B. No.5344. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Lisa L. Martin 329 Ward Street Wallingford, CT